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WEEKLY CONFEDERATE.

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NO. 7.

ADVERTISING.

ADVERTISEMENTS will be inserted at two dollars per square of ten lines (or less) for each insertion. Marriage notices and obituaries will be charged as advertisements.

JOB WORK.

JOB WORK of every description will be executed at this Office with dispatch, and as neatly as can be done anywhere in the Southern Confederacy.

The Ground He Stands on.—His "Principles and Views."

Previous to the 16th day of December last, the Standard had indulged in a continued strain, with abuse, complaint and denunciation of the Government at Richmond, as well of its dealings with soldiers as of the people.

On the 16th of December last, the Legislature having adjourned, Mr. Holden published the following short but significant editorial:

"Nearly five months will intervene between its adjournment and re-assembling in May, and meanwhile the most important events are likely to occur. The people will have ample time in which to instruct their Representatives, and we trust that during this time their will may be publicly, and unmistakably pronounced."

Here is a call upon a particular class—an active appeal to an especial interest, an unqualified ignoring of the Confederate Government and an explicit call for separate State action.

Between the 30th of December and the 6th of January, as can readily be proved, Dr. J. T. Leach, the member elected to Congress from the 2nd District, who lives in Johnston county, was several times in Raleigh, and always visited at the office of Mr. Holden.

Whereas, The alarming and fearful tendency of the Confederate Government towards a military despotism—by the enactment of unjust and oppressive laws, to citizens is just cause of complaint:

Resolved, That North Carolina as a sovereign and independent State has a right to consult the present good, and future happiness of her citizens, and when she is forced to choose between a military despotism and her State sovereignty, for the good of her people she will choose the latter by a convention of her citizens."

In Mr. Holden's paper of the same late-mentioned date, was published a communication from the same Dr. Leach—whom Mr. Holden had applauded—which communication was entitled "Whom the Gods would destroy they first made mad." This communication was intended to go out as an explanation of the meaning of the resolutions and preamble, in order to afford a cue to the initiated in the further progress of the agitation.

"There is a point beyond which forbearance ceases to be a virtue, and North Carolina, as regards her obligations under the Confederate compact, and her duty to her citizens, has reached that point, and it now behooves her freeborn people to stand up in the defence of their inalienable rights. It is a fearful struggle for life and property on the one hand, and for civil and religious liberty on the other."

"The reckless legislation of Congress, endorsed by the President, and the mighty strides now making towards a military despotism, admit of no delay. Nations, like families, are held together by duty and interest; if one fails to discharge their duty, the others are released from the discharge of theirs."

"Thus Mr. Holden published to the world this treasonable denunciation—in which, after stigmatizing our Government as a violator of its obligations, a military despotism—which had failed in the discharge of its duty, and with which we coalesced from necessity—but against our interest—the author proceeds to advise a cessation of forbearance, and an immediate standing upon the defensive in a fearful struggle about to be commenced for life and property, for civil and religious liberty—all against our own government—the claim to secede being deliberately set up—

European News.

A late arrival brings London dates to the 19th ult.: THE WAR IN DENMARK. The Prussians continued their operations against the entrenchments at Duppel, but the thaw retarded the movement of their heavy artillery, and delayed attack.

It is asserted at Rendsburg that the Prussian commander has summoned the Danes to evacuate Duppel, and the Island of Alsens, giving very short delay; failing to comply, the Prussian army would immediately occupy Jutland.

The Danes were strengthening the defences of Duppel and Alsens. LATEST VIA LONDON. Londn, Feb. 19.—An attack upon Duppel by the Prussian and African forces is imminent; but no news of its commencement has yet been received. It is stated that the place is defended by forty thousand Danes.

THE WAR IN SCHLESWIG. Copenhagen, Feb. 18.—8 o'clock P. M.—The Danish monitor iron-clad Kralkrake has attacked Esbensen. They attempted to destroy the bridges erected by the Austro-Prussians in the Braeger peninsula, but could not get near enough to do so, owing to the shallow water. She fired seventy-two shots and the German batteries fired one hundred and fifty. One shot went through her funnel.

The Germans drove the Danish rickets from the Stendrar and Nabell woods. The Danes subsequently rallied in force, when the Germans retired without offering resistance.

The position of the Germans in Braegerland is very dangerous. The Great Eastern has been sold to a new company, for ninety-five thousand pounds. Parliamentary proceedings on the 17th unimportant.

The Confederate loan has further advanced to 54@56. The rate of interest has been reduced by the Bank of England from eight to seven per cent. At Liverpool on the 15th, American cotton firm; other qualities some decline.

Breadstuffs—Flour heavy and tending downward. Wheat quiet and steady at Tuesday's rates. Corn dull and unchanged.

FRANCE. It is stated that the arrangements for the departure of the Archduke Maximilian for Paris, en route to Mexico, are complete. The Revue des Deux Mondes contends that France and England lose by want of co-operation, and urges the re-establishment of an active alliance to avert the catastrophe which menaces Denmark.

MEXICO. The cotton trade at Matamoros is represented as of growing importance. The large English houses in Liverpool and Manchester have now commenced to send their ships with supercargoes to Matamoros, where they discharge the cargo and await their cotton, which is brought the following way: A clerk or supercargo leaves England two or three months before the ship, and goes on horseback to Eagle Pass and from there to San Antonio, Texas. In San Antonio or another Place in Texas he buys the cotton, engages the mules and trains, and the cotton starts for Mexico; mule-trains arrive commonly in thirty or thirty-five days.

Cotton is between five and six cents per pound in Texas, but fifty per cent. has to be paid extra as tax to the Confederate States Government. The Confederate Government supports the trade in every way, but no train is allowed to go on the road below Loredo, for fear it might fall in the hands of the Northern troops. With all expenses a pound of cotton in Matamoros comes to twenty-one or twenty-five cents, but is worth in the place thirty-five. Since January, 1864, about eighty or eighty-five thousand bales of cotton have been shipped from here.

A pound of cotton sent to Liverpool, after being pressed shipped, and every expense paid, will cost thirty-six to forty cents.

A GALLANT AND DARING ADVENTURE.—The "Mississippi" gives the following account of a daring descent on Island 76 by Captain Evans' scouts:

Capt. Evans' scouts, commanded by Lieut. Gallaber—consisting of eleven men—made a most desperate and daring descent on Island 76, opposite Balizer, capturing the steamer "Guilman" and crew, together with thirty-five white men and fifty contrabands and several mules and horses; also the arrant traitor, Col. Milford, who has been in command of the island for some time, which had become a general rendezvous for runaway negroes.

The manner of their proceedings were as follows: Sergeant Robert Lee with five men procured a skiff on the night of the 3d and crossed over to the island, where they laid in ambush until daylight, a d then surprised and captured the steamer "Guilman" and crossed their prisoners and captured property on the boat.

While embarking four Federal transports loaded with troops passed within pistol shot, but our gallant scouts remained as cool and unconcerned as though it was an every day occurrence.

NEVER EAT SUPPER.—"Reflect, my brethren," exhorted a chaplain, "that whoe'er falls to day in battle snugs to night in Paradise." The fight began, the ranks wavered, the chaplain took to his heels, when a soldier stopping him, reproachfully referred him to the promised supper in paradise. "True, my friend, true," said the chaplain, "but I never eat supper."

The Richmond Enquirer of Monday, says:

The body of Dahlgren has been brought to Richmond for the purpose of identifying it as that of the officer upon whom was found the papers ordering the murder of the civil officers of the Government and the burning and sacking of the city of Richmond. What is to be done with the officers and men of this band? If they are to be regarded as prisoners of war, then the deliberate murder of civil officers, the burning of cities, the dishonor and murder of women, are all acts of legitimate war. Is the Confederate Government prepared to assume such a position? Are our people willing to be placed in such a position? Can we deliberately countenance the arson, rape, pillage and murder set forth and ordered by these commands of Dahlgren as the legitimate acts of warfare?

What would have been the condition of Richmond this day, one week ago, had Dahlgren succeeded? Imagine ten to twelve thousand brave soldiers released from captivity, inflamed with liquor, and burning with lust, turned loose with arms in their hands, without officers to restrain their violence—and no excited imagination is required to picture the smoking ruins, the dishonored women, and the murdered men of Richmond. Would that have been a legitimate act of war? No man, not even the Yankees, will contend that lawful war has any such horrors. These men are, therefore, not prisoners of war, but are land pirates, whose destruction is the duty of those having them in possession.

By immediately executing them we relieve our enemy of all suspicion of complicity with the brutal purpose of these wretches. If the Washington authorities choose to make this act their own by allowing it, choose to bring aid in this regard, it should make no difference with the Confederate authorities. But the Washington Government will not allow it; they will be thankful to escape correspondence about the matter. No government would be quick to array itself as the instigator of arson, murder, rape and pillage. The public opinion of the world will justify us if we execute them; but if we do not the world will set our action as proper, since we alone are interested.

We therefore expect the authorities to order the immediate execution of the officers and men of Dahlgren's command.

A young man has been caught stealing letters from the Post Office at Raleigh. We wish they could now catch the fellow that prevents the Raleigh papers from reaching this place regularly.—Charlotte Democrat.

There is more than one—but we are after them, and expect to catch them at their trick in less than a week.

YANKEE PRISONERS.—The Petersburg Express of Monday, says eleven Yankee prisoners and one free negro, captured by Gen. Ransom's forces between South Mills and Norfolk, on Tuesday last, reached this city yesterday via Weldon. The prisoners belong to the 5th Pennsylvania Cavalry, and were taken in a slight skirmish which ensued on the advance of the Confederate forces. Two "Buffaloes" were also captured at the same time, but left in Weldon. The skirmish, we understand, occurred some eight or ten miles of Norfolk. The prisoners, among whom was one Lieutenant, were lodged in the guard house on Bank street, and will probably be sent to Richmond to-day.

NO MORE INSULTS TO RICHMOND.—Gen. Bragg has determined to order fifteen hundred cavalry to be permanently stationed around Richmond. Such a force, picketing the roads, will effectively prevent the city from the insults of the raids, as well as the country from their injuries. Such a cavalry force in front of a raiding party, will always check them, until the cavalry from Gen. Lee's army can come up.

Such a force has always been wanted here and the fact that no cavalry was permanently attached to the Richmond defences, has encouraged the enemy in making these raids. The presence of these fifteen hundred cavalry will relieve us from raiding parties.

If General Hampton with his "six hundred," could, blown and exhausted by hard travel from Fredericksburg, overtake and capture so many, what damage would fifteen hundred fresh cavalry have done under such a leader?—Evangelist.

[From the New York Times] NEWBERN, N. C., Feb. 24.—Major-General Peck, since his return, has been busily engaged in making a rigid inspection of all the fortifications of the department. He has received reliable intelligence of the enemy's intention to make another effort to dispossess us of our possessions in Eastern North Carolina, with the assistance of three rebel iron-clads, plated ten inches thick, which are nearly ready to move simultaneously down the Neuse, Roanoke and Tar rivers.

Gen. Peck is taking measures to impede the progress of the iron-clads, which purpose moving conjointly with land forces on our three most important points on those rivers—Newbern, Plymouth and Washington.

It appears to be the impression both within and outside of our lines, that Virginia is to be evacuated, and the battle ground is to be transferred to North Carolina. Hence the desire of the enemy to make a formidable and desperate effort to obtain possession of this productive portion of the State and its extensive water communications before reinforcements can arrive for us.

The presence of an additional number of formidable gunboats, and a small increase to our present force, which Gen. Peck is anxious to obtain, will make the enemy's efforts fruitless, and turn the existing conditional cooperation mentioned in our favor.

MORGAN.—It is said that Gen. Morgan is about to undertake one of the boldest expeditions he has ever yet made, which, if successful, will be productive of great good to our cause.

The President has commissioned three privates as officers, for gallantry at the battle of Chickamauga.

[For The Confederate.]

Soldiers' Library and Reading Room. To the Citizens of North Carolina: At a meeting held by the Soldiers of Fort Pender, Smithville, N. C., the undersigned was requested to act as Agent to procure donations of Books and money for the establishment of a CIRCULATING LIBRARY AND READING ROOM at that place.

Such a work must certainly commend itself to your hearts, and can need no arguments from me. A few simple facts will suffice, viz: "The defences of the month of the Cape Fear, consist of not less than seven fortifications within a radius of nine miles, all named for distinguished North Carolina soldiers, and under command of Brigadier Gen. Hebert, to whom they report daily at Fort Pender. The number of troops it is not proper to state. They are mostly young men, who would read and cultivate their intellects, if they had the means. But they cannot buy books and papers on the slender pay of a soldier, nor have they access to them in any other way. These young men are not only our defenders now, but they are to be our hope and strength hereafter. They have gained our independence. If they lose the habits of study and reading and become demoralized and brutalized, what hope have we for them in the future?"

They have time, and want books—and shall they ask you for the means of improving their moral and intellectual culture and will you refuse?

In the name of your soldiers, I beg you to go to your libraries and select such as you can spare of the best Religious, Historical, Biographical, or Scientific works, and send them, Pastors of churches are respectfully requested to aid in this good work. All money sent by Express to the subscriber at Goldsboro, or packages of books to "Soldiers' Library," Fort Pender, care Capt. C. W. STRYKER, Quartermaster, Wilmington, N. C., will be thankfully received and acknowledged. Newspapers donating copies will please direct to "Soldiers' Reading Room," Fort Pender, Smithville, N. C.

JNO N. ANDREWS, Gen. Miss. Dep't. Cape Fear. The Press of the State will please copy.

A WARNING TO HOARDERS.—A late Yankee paper says an expedition recently sent up the Chowan river, North Carolina, destroyed fifty thousand pounds of bacon. Another recent raid up the same river resulted in the destruction of three hundred thousand pounds, in addition to other supplies. The expedition of Smith and Grierson in Northern Mississippi, though a splendid failure in its chief object, was attended, as the Yankees claim, with grater results than those up the Chowan river.

Some of the sufferers by these raids are probably those who have hoarded up what they did not need for their own use, and a tinned a deaf ear to the wants of the country. It is a source of some consolation, under the circumstances, to reflect that their selfishness has received its proper reward.

NARROW ESCAPE OF GEN. HOWARD STAFF.—The Columbia Carolinaian learns, that while en route to Darion, a collision took place between the cars on one of the roads, which killed a white woman, broke several arms and legs, and smashed one or two carriages. Gen. Howd was slightly injured. Major Hamilton, of Columbus, found himself suddenly astride of the stove, with his hat on one corner, pipe in another, with the inmates of the car lying around him.

We are informed that Mrs. Mumford, wife of Wm. B. Mumford, who was murdered by Butler in New Orleans, is in this city, with her three children, and is stopping at the Planters' Hotel. She is on her way to Richmond.—Aug Chronicle.

It will be remembered that Mumford jerked down and tore up the first U. S. flag that was raised in New Orleans after the Yankees took possession of the city. For doing this, he was hung by Beas Butler. Mumford was a native of North Carolina, and we hope if any of our soldiers ever get hold of Butler they will hang him without a moment's delay.—Char. Den.

Confederate Officers Returned. The following is a list of the officers who arrived in Richmond on Sunday afternoon from Point Lookout:

Cavalry.—J K Connelly, 55th N C; J Howard Smith, 5th Ky; W S Christian, 56th Va; Robt Budoek, 7th Florida—4.

Lieut. Colonels.—John Critcher, 15th Va Cavalry; S H Boyd, 45th N C; R E Burke, 2d La; H A Jarrington, 18th Va—4.

Majors.—J C Davis, 17th Tenn; J A Blair, 2d Miss; R J Durr, 30th Miss; W K Deunett, Staff Department; C S A; C C Blacknull, 23d N C—5.

Captains.—B H Miller, 50th Ga; B L Bridges, 2d Ga Cavalry; Little, James Whitaker, 47th Ala; J B Cloud, 16th Ark; M V Colman, 39th Miss; W C Clyburn, 7th S C; J P Lee, A G Dept; B D Anderson, Hankins, Tenn Art; W M Bovey, 19th Va; J Blackburn, 14th Ark; J B Brown, 5th Va Cavalry; D Bell, 4th N C; J C A Bell, 2d J A; W M Berkeley, 8th Va; J H Buchanan, 2d Miss; D G Alexander, 3d Tenn; J F A. Darson, 16th Va Cavalry—18.

First Lieutenants.—J T Andrews, 23d Ark; Joseph Anderson, 15th Ark; J J Ashe, 11th Miss; Amos Anderson, 2d Texas Cavalry; W M Caudle, 10th Ark; F M Bledsoe, 11th Ga; W H Bryson, 62d N C; S E Belk, 53d N C; J C Warren, 52d N C; D F Goodlow, 16th Miss; J T Boughn, 56th Va; Wm Reed, Gimer's Cavalry; W W Brown, 4th Texas; R W Adams, 5th Fla.; S F Adams, 44th N C—15.

Second Lieutenants.—S S Armstrong, 5th Tenn Cavalry; N D Adams, 1st Ala; W V Anderson, 5th Texas; A G Archer, 12th Ark; J D Perkins, 2d Fla; G N Nixco, 32d N C; J R Bowles, 12th S C; J R Crawford, 46th Ala; N C Hobbs, 1st Va Cavalry; J T Miller, 35th Va—12.

At Fortress Monroe they were informed that Kilpatrick had taken Richmond, burned the city and hung the President and his cabinet.

[For The Confederate.]

Messrs. Editors.—The parable of the ten talents, by which our Saviour illustrated the accountability of man to his Maker for his precious gifts of reason and intellect, which He bestowed upon him from and elevate him above the brute creation, is one of those instructive lessons with which the teachings of our Lord are replete. That parable holds as well a reference to those who bury their talents beneath the rubbish of idleness and slothfulness, as to those who misapply it. Instead of the two classes, the latter are undoubtedly the more reprehensible. Both have their illustrations in holy writ—the former by the neglected candle put under a bushel; the latter in the wicked and unprofitable character of an Absolom. How many neglected candles are there among us in this dark hour of our country's trial, which are not under a bushel? Alas! but too many. Men, whom God has endowed with intellect and capacity, eminently fitting them to be lights and guides amid the surrounding gloom, what are they doing? Why is not their voice heard ringing high above the uproar of faction, exhorting to unity and increased energy for the salvation of the State? History and tradition will hand down such men to posterity as unworthy of the times in which they lived, and God, in the great day, will exact of them a strict account of the talents buried in a time of their country's need.

Acacia, I will ask, how many are there among us whose lights, not hid under a bushel, one being used to inflame and destroy the fair fabric founded by statesmen, and consecrated by the blood of heroes and patriots? Surely God will demand of such a strict accountability of the misapplication of his precious gifts. It is not for living men to penetrate beyond the veil that separates the present from the future, and read the doom of those who have been false to God, to themselves and their country; but it is sufficiently indicated in the parable referred to. By the light of history, we may ascertain the fate of such as this lie, and it is my purpose to advert to two cases—one in ancient, and the other in modern times.

Louis Sergius Cataline, was a Roman of a noble family, who formed the design of destroying the Senate, assassinating the consuls, seizing the public treasury, and taking the Roman, and usurping sovereign power. In order to prosecute this design, Cataline associated in his plot some young noblemen, whom he prevailed upon, if he failed, to drink human blood as a pledge of their union. This conspiracy, however, was discovered by the vigilance of Cicerio, who was consul at the time. It was exceedingly difficult to seize the persons of one who had soldiers at his command; both in and out of Rome, and more difficult would it be to prove his guilt before those who were accustomed with him, or at least, were willing to make use of his place to serve their own interest. He had to go on between two evils—a revolution within the city, or a civil war. He preferred the latter. Cataline had the boldness to take his seat in the Senate, knowing he was to be the enemy of the Roman State. Cicerio then rose and delivered that bold oration against him which was the means of saving Rome, by driving Cataline from the city. Having raised an army, he fought with valor against Petreius, lieutenant of Antony, Cicerio's lieutenant in the consularship. In this battle, Cataline was defeated and killed.

Such was the fate of one who, endowed by his Maker with many talents, chose rather to misapply them, than use them to the glory of God and the benefit of his kind. I will now turn to a more modern instance of an abuse of Heaven's talent, richest gifts.

Benedit Arnold was an officer in the war of American Independence. He was born in Connecticut, engaged with zeal in the cause of his countrymen, and rose to be a Brigadier General. He was appointed, after a wound in the leg, to the command of Philadelphia, where his conduct was such, that he was tried by a Court Martial in 1779, and repudiated. On this he resigned his commission, and appears from that time to have entered on the dishonorable scheme for which he is chiefly remembered—that of betraying his country. After his escape to the British, he held the same rank he had held in the American army, and was employed in Virginia and Connecticut, in both of which he committed great desecration, especially in the case of the surrender of Cornwallis at York Town, he went to England, but was only partially rewarded for his treachery by the payment of \$6,300. His position was humiliating, for nearly every one avoided him with disgust and horror, and he was repeatedly insulted. He died in utter obscurity at London 1801.

Such is the brief sketch of one, of whom it has been said, that Washington, although he could not respect the private character, was even the first to acknowledge and defend the public ability. Thus, Messrs. Editors, I have cited two remarkable instances of the perversion of those talents which God commits to our care and use. I cite them, not for the purpose of illustrating the character of any one in our midst—for I sincerely trust there is none such—but as a warning to those, whom God has endowed with faculties for great good or great evil, not to misapply them, but to use them, when they shall come to give an account of them, they may bear pronounced the pleasing words, "well done, thou true and faithful servant." P.

FROM BELOW.—By the train from Ivor yesterday afternoon, we learned that our forces, which have been occupying Suffolk for several days past, have returned to their old quarters on the Blackwater, having accomplished all they intended or expected by their advance. They left Suffolk Saturday night and it was occupied by four companies of Yankee cavalry Sunday morning. Two gunboats came up the river and anchored at the wharf during the day Sunday.

The rumor that General Ransom had occupied Bowers' Hill, seems not to have been correct. But without doubt he has done a good work in the vicinity of South Mills and on the Dismal Swamp Canal, a full report of which we are expecting soon to receive.—Petersburg Express.